

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An operating ~~Operating~~ unit to generate a flow of air under pressure in aerosol therapy appliances, the operating unit comprising:

a pump group which includes a head, an electric motor and a fan;[[,]] and

a body enclosing said pump group and formed by [[two]] a bottom shell and ~~top shells~~

5 a top shell, said bottom shell having a bottom shell edge, said top shell having a top shell edge,

one of said bottom shell and said top shell being shells which are superimposed on to the other

one of said bottom shell and said top shell to [[and]] close said body on a transversal plane,

said transversal plane being on a level with their edges said bottom shell edge and said top

shell edge, said bottom shell edge and said top shell edge being formed to self-center one of

10 said top shell and said bottom shell with the other one of said top shell and said bottom shell,

~~and where the said head of the pump group has~~ having an air inlet duct ~~complete with~~

comprising a filter and an air outlet duct, ~~and the said electric motor is equipped with~~

comprising a plurality of suspension elements in said body and said electric motor being [[is]]

electrically connected to a socket and a switch supported by a plate with a fuse, ~~characterized~~

15 ~~by the fact that the shells~~ said bottom shell and said top shell having forming said body have

means for receiving and holding the air inlet duct with said filter, the air outlet duct, and the

plate with said fuse, said socket, ~~electric~~ and said switch following [[their]] the overlapping

of one of said top shell edge and said bottom shell edge with the other of the top shell edge and

said bottom shell edge upon [[for]] an automated assembly of [[the]] said pump group with

20 said body, wherein each of said top shell and said bottom shell has a first recess and a slot, said

first recess and said slot of said top shell being on a level with said top shell edge, said first recess and said slot of said bottom shell being on a level with said bottom shell edge, said top shell edge being aligned with said bottom shell edge, said means for receiving and holding said air inlet duct with said filter being provided by said first recess of said top shell joined with said first recess of said second shell when said body is closed to form a lateral lodging to receive the air inlet duct and the air filter, said means for receiving and holding the socket, the switch, and the plate comprising said slot of said top shell and said slot of said bottom shell, said slot of said top shell being joined with said slot of said bottom shell when said body is closed to form a lateral opening that receives and holds said socket, said switch, and said plate for connecting said electric motor to an electric supply source, said top shell comprising a second recess on a top surface thereof, said second recess receiving said air outlet duct.

2. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the air inlet duct and the air outlet duct of the pump group are in planes at ~~right-angular~~ right angles to each other.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which the air inlet duct with filter is lodged in the respective side seating~~ wherein with interposition of a first seal is arranged between said air inlet duct and said first recess in said top shell and said first recess

in said bottom shell, and a second seal is arranged between said air outlet duct and said second
5 ~~recess the air outlet duct is lodged in the respective hole in the top of the body with~~
~~interposition of a further seal.~~

5. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which the~~ wherein a
bottom portion of said bottom shell of said body is equipped with a plurality of feet ~~at the~~
~~bottom, and in which,~~ wherein a protrusion is disposed inside said shell[[,]] on an axis with
one of said feet [[legs]], ~~is shaped a protrusion~~ said protrusion acting as a support for the head
5 of the pump group, said protrusion extending to rest against [[the]] a bottom part of said head,
said protrusion being aligned with said air outlet duct and said protrusion facing said air outlet
duct, wherein ~~with interposition of~~ a damper element is arranged between said bottom part of
said head and said protrusion ~~and so as to be in line and facing the air outlet duct.~~

6. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which the~~ wherein
said filter is tightly fitted in the air inlet duct and has a longitudinal cavity partially obstructed
by a pin.

7. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein said
filter can be removed from the outside of the body ~~or shell~~, [[the]] said filter being accessible
using a tool to remove [[it]] said filter through a slot provided in said body ~~or shell~~ and radially
oriented to said means for holding and receiving said ~~the seating hosting the~~ air inlet duct.

8. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which the~~ wherein said air inlet duct and [[the]] said air outlet duct of the pump group are parallel, both horizontal said air inlet duct and said air outlet duct being horizontally placed and held between ~~the matching edges of the two shells forming said body~~ said top shell edge and said bottom shell edge.

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9. (Currently Amended) Operating unit according to claim 8, ~~in which~~ wherein the body forms a tool holder compartment closed by a cover, and the air inlet and outlet ducts of the pump group are on a wall of said compartment and are accessible through the ~~latter~~ cover.

10. (Currently Amended) An operating unit according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the air inlet and outlet ducts of the pump group are parallel, ~~[[both]]~~ said air inlet and said air outlet duct being placed vertically and emerging on a level with the top shell of said body.

11. (New) An operating unit to generate a flow of air under pressure in aerosol therapy appliances, the operating unit comprising:

a pump group which includes a head, an electric motor and a fan; and

a body enclosing said pump group and formed by a bottom shell and a top shell, said bottom shell having a bottom shell edge, said top shell having a top shell edge, one of said bottom shell and said top shell being superimposed on to the other one of said bottom shell and said top shell to close said body on a transversal plane, said transversal plane being on a level

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with said bottom shell edge and said top shell edge, said bottom shell edge and said top shell edge being formed to self-center one of said top shell and said bottom shell with the other one of said top shell and said bottom shell, said head having an air inlet duct comprising a filter and an air outlet duct, said electric motor comprising a plurality of suspension elements in said body and said electric motor being electrically connected to a socket and a switch supported by a plate with a fuse, said bottom shell and said top shell having means for receiving and holding the air inlet duct with said filter, the air outlet duct, and the plate with said fuse, said socket, and said switch following the overlapping of one of said top shell edge and said bottom shell edge with the other of the top shell edge and said bottom shell edge upon an automated assembly of said pump group with said body, wherein said air inlet duct with said filter is lodged in a side seating formed by a first recess in said top shell and a first recess in said bottom shell, wherein a first seal is arranged between said air inlet duct and said first recess in said top shell and said first recess in said bottom shell, and a second seal is arranged between said air outlet duct and a hole defined by a second recess in a top portion of the top shell, wherein said air outlet duct is arranged in said hole in said top shell.

12. (New) An operating unit to generate a flow of air under pressure in aerosol therapy appliances, the operating unit comprising:

a pump group which includes a head, an electric motor and a fan; and

a body enclosing said pump group and formed by a bottom shell and a top shell, said bottom shell having a bottom shell edge, said top shell having a top shell edge, one of said

bottom shell and said top shell being superimposed on to the other one of said bottom shell and said top shell to close said body on a transversal plane, said transversal plane being on a level with said bottom shell edge and said top shell edge, said bottom shell edge and said top shell edge being formed to self-center one of said top shell and said bottom shell with the other one of said top shell and said bottom shell, said head having an air inlet duct comprising a filter and an air outlet duct, said electric motor comprising a plurality of suspension elements in said body and said electric motor being electrically connected to a socket and a switch supported by a plate with a fuse, said bottom shell and said top shell having means for receiving and holding the air inlet duct with said filter, the air outlet duct, and the plate with said fuse, said socket, and said switch following the overlapping of one of said top shell edge and said bottom shell edge with the other of the top shell edge and said bottom shell edge upon an automated assembly of said pump group with said body, wherein a bottom portion of said bottom shell of said body is equipped with a plurality of feet, wherein a protrusion is disposed inside said shell on an axis with one of said feet, said protrusion acting as a support for the head of the pump group, said protrusion extending to rest against a bottom part of said head, said protrusion being aligned with said air outlet duct and said protrusion facing said air outlet duct, wherein a damper element is arranged between said bottom part of said head and said protrusion.